

IN THE CLAIMS:

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS:

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (cancelled)
7. (cancelled)
8. (cancelled)
9. (cancelled)
10. (new) A preform of a plastic container comprising a conically-shaped container body with a convex hemispherical bottom, which flares towards a cylindrical neck, whereby

by the single-layer body (4) in which the external diameter of the cone as measured at the point of connection with the cylindrical part (2) is equal to the external diameter of the cylindrical part, where the cylindrical part (2) ends with a flange (3) terminated in a thickened rim (5).

11. (new) The preform according to claim 10 which is designed for packaging foodstuffs.
12. (new) The preform according to claim (10), wherein the thickness (g1) of the flange (3) as measured at a distance of approximately 0.5 mm from the flange end (3) is less than 0.25 mm and the wall thickness (g1) is less than or equal to the cylindrical neck wall thickness (g2).
13. (new) The preform according to claim 2, wherein the thickness (g1) of the flange 3 is approximately 0.20 mm.
14. (new) The preform according to claim (10), wherein the rim (5) of the flange (3) has a annular thickening (5a) on top and underneath it, whose height (h) varies from 1.1 to 2.0 of the flange thickness (g1).
15. (new) The preform according to claim (10), wherein the rim (5) of the flange (3) has a ring-like one sided thickening (5b) on top of it, whose height (h) varies from 1.1 to 2.0 of the flange thickness (g1).

16. (new) The preform according to claim (10), wherein the rim (5) of the flange (3) has a ring-like one sided thickening (5c) underneath it, whose height (h) varies from 1.1 to 2.0 of the flange thickness (g1).